



# Department of Justice

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## **GREENVILLE FIREARMS DEALER GIVEN MAXIMUM SENTENCE OF TWELVE MONTHS IN PRISON**

### *Approximately 1200 Firearms Involved*

DAYTON – Larry L. Riffle, age 60, of Greenville, Ohio was sentenced in United States District Court here to twelve months imprisonment, the statutory maximum, for falsifying records and failing to maintain accurate documentation of his firearms inventory and sales.

Gregory G. Lockhart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio, and Christopher P. Sadowski, Special Agent in Charge, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, announced the sentence delivered by Chief United States Magistrate Judge Michael R. Merz today.

Riffle was charged in April with one count of failure to maintain and make a proper entry on a firearms record by a federal firearms licensee, a misdemeanor, and he pleaded guilty to that charge on May 21, 2008. Today, Riffle received the maximum sentence of twelve months imprisonment.

Accordingly to the statement of facts filed in court, ATF agents executed a search warrant at Riffle's business, known as "Rif's Guns," in Greenville in November 2004, when it was discovered that Riffle had more than 1200 firearms which were improperly documented. Riffle made incomplete entries in his records regarding the person/business who provided firearms in his inventory, and he failed to record the complete mailing address and other identifying information to enable ATF to trace the firearms. Federal regulations require any holder of a federal firearms license to keep proper and timely records.

Upon release from prison, Riffle will be required to serve a one year period of supervised release, a form of parole. He was also fined \$4000. Riffle agreed as part of his plea agreement to forfeit the roughly 1200 firearms from his inventory for which the federal licensee record-keeping requirements were not met.

"Federal record-keeping requirements for licensed firearms dealers are an important link in the accountability chain and help assure the safety of our community by seeking to keep

firearms in the hands of responsible owners and users,” Lockhart said. “When that link is broken, that assurance and traceability is lost, and the ramifications for both the firearms dealer and the community can be severe.”

United States Attorney Lockhart commended the efforts of the ATF agents for their investigation of the case, and Assistant United States Attorney Andrew Hunt, who prosecuted the case.

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